

ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Makoto FUKUDA et al. Group Art Unit: 1723

Appln. No. : 10/553,950 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/005870)

I.A. Filed : April 23, 2004 Confirmation No.: 6546

For : HOLLOW FIBER MEMBRANE TYPE FLUID TREATMENT DEVICE

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed on February 15, 2006 and April 20, 2006, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner an European Search Report dated August 21, 2007, with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. 04729218.0, in which the following documents were cited:

- Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-173527 A, and (1)
- European Patent Publication No. 0 306 613 A1, and patent family members U.S. (2) Patent No. Re. 33,932 and U.S. Patent No. 4,620,965.

Applicants note that the above-noted document (1) was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 15, 2006, and thus a copy of this document is not enclosed herewith.

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The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the European claims by the European Examiner, is set forth in the European Search Report.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. Patent Application Publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted foreign document (2) is attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the European Search Report is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Makoto FUKUDA et al.

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Sheet 1 of 1 P28510.P09 FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Atty. Docket No. Application No. Patent and Trademark Office P28510 10/553,950 **Applicant** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Makoto FUKUDA et al. BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date Group October 21, 2005 1723 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER FILING DATE** INITIAL DATE NAME **CLASS SUBCLASS** IF APPROPRIATE DOCUMENT NUMBER R Ε 3 3 2 05/19/92 FUKASAWA et al. 3 4 6 2 0 9 6 5 11/04/86 FUKUSAWA et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY **CLASS SUBCLASS** YES 0 3 03/15/89 E.P.O. 6 6 1 8 3 5 2 7 07/09/96 **JAPAN** OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.

Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**EXAMINER**